

As a recent subscriber to XM, I am pleased with the quality of the traffic and weather reports they provide. They are more comprehensive than what local radio stations report. For example, in my area, the local radio outlets in Philadelphia tend to only cover the major Interstate, U.S., and large State highways, and mostly in Pennsylvania. New Jersey listeners in Burlington, Camden, and Gloucester Counties tend to only get covered when there are major incidents.

In addition, for those who travel between metro areas and are not familiar with the local traffic patterns, listening to XM from far away can help prepare motorists for slow spots they might not initially be aware of when they arrive in the new metro area.

The variety and quality of XM is definately worth the subscription price I pay each month for the service. There are music styles that I never even had heard of until I started listening to XM. Also, the decades shows are really good, and when local radio has tried decades formats (such as all '70s or all '80s), they have been forced to diversify their music, and thus change formats (without listeners' consent) in order to appeal to wider audiences, gain larger market share, and thus more profits.

I respectfully urge the FCC to reject the NAB's petition 04-160, as it is an unfair assault on a superior technology that the American public is (and has the right to be) supporting with their pocketbooks.